

FOR THE FOLIOLE SOCIETY.

MR. ALCOHOL AS A MEDICINE.

MR. WINTER: I wish to draw the attention of your readers to a new phase of the temperance reform. The subject of abandoning the use of alcoholic liquors for any purpose, for some three years past, has somewhat engrossed my attention. The cause seems to me so necessary and without so easy a safe, that I am not at all surprised to find that it has attracted the attention of those who are not at all zealous for temperance people, but who do not at least make the matter a subject of discussion. On reflection, I suppose the reason to be, therefore, First, Because they are not aware of the danger of the medicinal use. Second, They do not realize the obstacle to the progress of the temperance cause that such use presents. Third, They have been educated to believe the thing impracticable. As your readers are all possessed of "new ideas," and that a big one, I apprehend no difficulty in causing them to retain, another, upon a kindred aspect. As intelligent anti-temperance men are always ready to be improved, we need only point to them the principle that has long been established, that it is dangerous to take very small quantities of intoxicating liquors into the stomach; because it creates the necessity for a little more, and a little more, till the drunkard's appetite is so excited, that he will take one more, however small, in connection with the above, which has been heretofore overlooked. It is this *Melioratio de natura de naturæ de naturæ* as to prevent the formation of a drunkard's appetite. This does not consist in a love for the taste of alcohol, but in the excitement of the stimulus if it be required by previous use.

Old drunkards often "bathe" the taste of rum, while temperate people love it. This position can be sustained by facts of daily occurrence. Cases can be found in most of the towns in Maine, where reformed inebriates have been lured back to their cups by the use of the Patent Medicines which are usually prepared with alcohol and owe to that, their wonderful healing powers. Could your readers be aware of the

Portland Inquirer.

anger to which the patient is subjected, and which is often followed by a violent outburst, and then by a period of morbidly gloomy depression. Under the name of *Paroxysm*, Eschsch. No.6, Pandakur, Bitters and Sassaqualia, (to say nothing of what they take in an open and undisguised form) they would at once cast this unclean spirit from among them. When we take into account the number exposed and their extra value, (being mostly females and children) this operation assumes much importance.

As an antidote to the above, I have used alcohol in its purest form, by creating the necessity for spirits, to be manufactured and their sale legalised, when their use cannot be added to medicine and the cause. Second, by destroying our *opora*, induce upon the temperate. Most of the cases of relapse have arisen from the medicinal use.

100

National Convention.

We keep the world as regards spirits as a bondage without need for the incubator. If we urge him to keep them than that we are ourselves, we are chargeable with hypocrisy.

It must have occurred to you and all reflecting persons, that if the present Law could be carried out to the very letter, while there is still a possibility of degeneration, and of injured hearts, this necessity of medicinal provision would destroy, or seriously counteract its effect.

Then what is to be done? The case is clear, and the remedy is obvious. We must have a law that we can use ourselves. But can we dispense with alcohol as a medicinal agent? Many ask that question innocently and ignorantly, no doubt; but still, there are some things very peculiar. I know persons (temperance people of course) who are in favor of the medicinal qualities of Phosphorus in cases of ligors and would not, for the very life of them disobey their orders, yet will set up their own opinions against the whole Medical Faculty, when any

Those very valuable little tracts are now ready.

dy, consisting of Mr. Giddings' Speech, Church

Now, *Mr. Editor*, what is the cause of this indifference and reluctance to meddle with this subject? Why is there so much apparent unwillingness on the part of the Press to broach this question? Is it that it is no trifling? I have looked at it so long and so steadily, that I feel it to be very important. The decision of my question, as I look at it, will decide the fate of the temperance reform. There are questions, which on the very face of them show so much importance, that they are seized upon at once by the whole Editorial corps and column after column filled with the arguments and facts, till every reader who has as much "civ" as a calf, understands their merits fully and perhaps is perfectly disgusted. In this great and responsible

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The "blue man costume" for instance is a case in point. A grave and weighty subject, inviting the great question of slanting the ladies skirt some few inches.

With regard to the practicability and safety of dispensing with alcohol as a medicinal agent, I am prepared to prove that the interests of the healing art demand that it should be discarded. I have not time now to go into this part of the subject. Suffice it to say that I am ready to meet any challenge through the Inquirer. I have a standing offer of \$1000 to any Physician or druggist who will prove the necessity of alcohol as a medicine. Just say if your readers that this is not a mere rant. The offer is made in sober earnest and I hold myself *respondeo* to every satisfactory bond.

Yours truly,
NORM GILMAN.

FRANKFURT JUNE 6.

is just such a man as honest people love to vote

for. Himself the "noblest work of God—a

Where are the three hundred thousand voters who in 1848 cast their votes against the old and tried Whig platform of non-interference in slaveholding rule? Where are the thirty thousand Liberty men in New York who voted for Fremont? And where are the thousands of John Van Buren and Henry R. Stanton, in the support of a candidate pledged by the Whigs to non-interference with the institution of slavery, in Congress and out of it, under whatever shape or color—whether in the shape of a tariff, a tariff of duties, or a tariff by ecclesiastical bodies, or opposition to the annexation of Cuba, or division of California into anti-slavery and pro-slavery States?

Let us hear from them on the 11th of August.

And what say the Whigs who are tired of the yoke? How do they like the Compromise platform? Do they feel like the Liberator, who said, "The Whigs are tired of the yoke, they have denounced as a foul blot on the standard of the Union the compromise platform."

Let us hear from them, too, on the 11th of

August.

A shock of an earthquake was very sensibly felt in New Hampshire and Vermont, in the neighborhood of Claremont and Winsor, Wednesday morning.

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